

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above-identified patent application has been amended and re-examination and re-examination are hereby requested.

Referring to claims 12, 13 and 19-21 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by US Pat. No. 6,484, 222 to Olson et al, (Olson).

Referring to FIGS 2 and 3 of Olson, each one of the expansion slots provides signals to the control logic 125. Claim 12 points out that "each one of such electrical contacts of the plurality of printed circuit boards being electrically connected together **through a corresponding one of the plurality of conductors of the backplane...**" thereby distinguishing over Olson. Olson does not teach connecting the expansion slot contacts together **through a corresponding one of the plurality of conductors of the backplane...**

Claim 19 points out that " each one of such electrical contacts of the plurality of printed circuit boards being electrically **connected together through a corresponding one of the plurality of conductors of the backplane** thereby distinguishing over Olson. Olson does not teach connecting the expansion slot contacts together **through a corresponding one of the plurality of conductors of the backplane.**

Claim 18 stands rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by US Pat Pub No, 2002/0099875 to Locklear et al. (Locklear)

Referring to claim 18, such claim points out that an **electrical circuit** is provided for electrically inhibiting the electrical coupling of the electrical component on the additional printed circuit board from the electrical components of the plurality of printed circuit boards. Applicant fails to see such an electric circuit in Locklear. Further, Applicant fails to find any description in Locklear which describes not allowing communication until optimization is complete. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner point out the paragraph that describes this feature. In any event, applicant also fails to find in Locklear an **electrical circuit** for electrically inhibiting the electrical coupling of the electrical component on the

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additional printed circuit board from the electrical components of the plurality of printed circuit boards as in claim 18

In the event a petition for extension of time is required by this paper and not otherwise provided, such petition is hereby made and authorization is provided herewith to charge deposit account No. 05-0889 for the cost of such extension.

In the event any additional fee is required, please charge such amount to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 05-0889.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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